CLAIMS

1. A mobile terminal which receives a broadcast program
and receives program data identical in content to the broadcast
program through communication with a program distribution center
via a network, the mobile terminal comprising:

a receiver for receiving the broadcast program;

a state determining section operable to determine whether
the mobile terminal has entered a predetermined state;

a program information generating section operable to
generate program information specifying the broadcast program
received by the receiver;

a communication section operable to transmit the program
information to the program distribution center and receive the
program data corresponding to the broadcast program specified by
the program information from the program distribution center; and

a reproducing section operable to switch from reproduction
of the broadcast program received by the receiver to reproduction
of the program data received by the communication section, upon
determination by the state determining section that the mobile
terminal has entered the predetermined state.

2. The mobile terminal according to claim 1, wherein

the state determining section includes a reception state
monitoring section operable to monitor a state of receiving the
broadcast program in the receiver, and

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the predetermined state is a state in which a state of receiving the broadcast program is deteriorated.

3. The mobile terminal according to claim 1, wherein the state determining section includes a reception state

5   monitoring section operable to monitor a state of receiving the broadcast program in the receiver, and

the predetermined state is a state in which a state of receiving the broadcast program will be deteriorated after a predetermined period of time.

10   4. The mobile terminal according to claim 1, wherein the state determining section includes:

a position specifying section operable to specify a position to which the mobile terminal will move; and

a reception state estimating section having

15   information on weak-signal areas and being operable to estimate that a position to which the mobile terminal will move after a predetermined period of time will be within a weak-signal area, and

the predetermined state is a state in which the mobile

20   terminal is in a position where the mobile terminal will move into the weak-signal area after the predetermined period of time.

5. The mobile terminal according to claim 1, further comprising

a recording section operable to record the program data

25   received by the communication section, wherein

the reproducing section reproduces the program data recorded

in the recorder during a period of time required for switching

from the reproduction of the broadcast program to the reproduction

of the program data received by the communication section.

5   6. The mobile terminal according to claim 5, wherein

the period of time required for reproduction switching by

the reproducing section includes a period of time for changing

image setting required based on a difference in image resolution

between the broadcast program received by the receiver and the

10   program data received by the communication section.

7. The mobile terminal according to claim 1, wherein

the program information further includes information

specifying a reproducing point in the broadcast program at a time

when the mobile terminal enters the predetermined state.

15   8. The mobile terminal according to claim 1, wherein

the program information further includes information

specifying a reproducing point desired by a user in the broadcast

program.

9. The mobile terminal according to claim 1, wherein

20   upon determination by the state determining section that

the mobile terminal has been recovered from the predetermined state,

the reproducing section again switches to reproduction of the

broadcast program received by the receiver.

10. The mobile terminal according to claim 1, wherein

25   upon determination that the mobile terminal has entered the

predetermined state, the state determining section reports the determination to a user, and

in accordance with a switching instruction given from the user, the reproducing section continues reproduction by switching

5   from the broadcast program received by the receiver to the program data received by the communication section.

11. A program reception controlling method performed by a mobile terminal which receives a broadcast program and receives program data identical in content to the broadcast program through

10   communication with a program distribution center via a network, the method comprising:

a broadcast receiving step of receiving the broadcast program;

a determining step of determining whether the mobile terminal

15   has entered a predetermined state;

a generating step of generating program information specifying the broadcast program received in the broadcast receiving step;

a communication receiving step of transmitting the program

20   information to the program distribution center and receiving the program data corresponding to the broadcast program specified by the program information from the program distribution center; and

a reproducing step of switching, upon determination in the determining step that the mobile terminal has entered the

25   predetermined state, from reproduction of the broadcast program

received in the broadcast receiving step to reproduction of the program data received in the communication receiving step.

12. A computer program for causing a mobile terminal to perform program reception control, the mobile terminal receiving a broadcast program and receiving program data identical in content to the broadcast program through communication with a program distribution center via a network, the computer program comprising:

a broadcast receiving step of receiving the broadcast program;

a determining step of determining whether the mobile terminal has entered a predetermined state;

a generating step of generating program information specifying the broadcast program received in the broadcast receiving step;

a communication receiving step of transmitting the program information to the program distribution center and receiving the program data corresponding to the broadcast program specified by the program information from the program distribution center; and

a reproducing step of switching, upon determination in the determining step that the mobile terminal has entered the predetermined state, from reproduction of the broadcast program received in the broadcast receiving step to reproduction of the program data received in the communication receiving step.

13. A recording medium having recorded thereon a computer program for causing a mobile terminal to perform program reception

control, the mobile terminal receiving a broadcast program and receiving program data identical in content to the broadcast program through communication with a program distribution center via a network, the computer program comprising:

5   a broadcast receiving step of receiving the broadcast program;

a determining step of determining whether the mobile terminal has entered a predetermined state;

a generating step of generating program information

10   specifying the broadcast program received in the broadcast receiving step;

a communication receiving step of transmitting the program information to the program distribution center and receiving the program data corresponding to the broadcast program specified by

15   the program information from the program distribution center; and

a reproducing step of switching, upon determination in the determining step that the mobile terminal has entered the predetermined state, from reproduction of the broadcast program received in the broadcast receiving step to reproduction of the

20   program data received in the communication receiving step.

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